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Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E.

Message from the Director's Office

By Tom Wendorf, P.E., Director

We've got a great deal of projects coming up in the next few months. From Main Plaza to Comal and Lockhill Selma Road, Public Works is busy across the City. One of our most recent projects is the Igo Library. We recently attended a ceremony for the groundbreaking of this new and exciting facility.

Every care will be taken to blend in the existing vegetation with this new facility. A 30-foot windmill will greet visitors. This non-traditional hybrid windmill will harvest power from the intermittent wind source and, through a generator, provide supplemental power to a small water pump, allowing the water to flow down a channel and through the building to a water basin. This channel will be paired with a 120-foot window wall along the building, allowing visitors to maintain a connection to the library even from the outside. The channel will create an axis with the windmill and heritage oak acting as signifiers that anchor the two endpoints.

Located in the center of this axis will be an entry tower, which will act as a control point separating the library from the community meeting rooms to allow use of the meeting rooms during non-library hours, while maintaining the sense of entry for all. A pathway from the library will lead visitors to a heritage live oak, where one may discover a natural outdoor reading enclosure where patrons may read alone or gather in small groups. This is truly a one of a kind imagination factory!

As you read through this issue, please be on the lookout for additional up and coming projects!

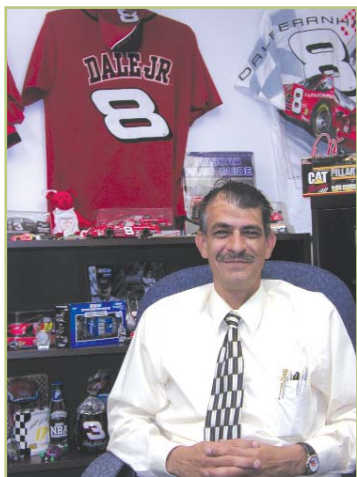


Ethics Training Mandatory

The Ethics Code now requires that each department provide all employees with Ethics Code training at least once every other calendar year. The training initiative mentioned above fulfills this requirement. In addition, the Office of the City Attorney provides Ethics Code Training to any department upon request.

Juan Martinez Construction Inspections

By Lisa McKenzie, Special Projects Officer



Having been with Public Works for 24 years (this October), Juan swept his way to the newly appointed Construction Inspections Manager position, literally. His career began as a Maintenance Worker sweeping the streets of downtown with a broom and an old license plate as a dustpan! He was quickly promoted and has held many positions to include his most recent as the Superintendent for the Storm Water Operations Division.

For the last seven years he oversaw the Restitution Program, Graffiti Abatement (where he was instrumental in planning the logistics for "Graffiti Wipeout Volunteer Day"

from its inception in 2003) to special event clean-ups in downtown. Coordinating with other Public Works divisions such as Traffic Operations, to the Parks Department and San Antonio Police Department, he was able to have downtown looking "uneventful" the day after NIOSA, New Year's Eve Celebration and his favorite, the Battle of Flowers and Fiesta Flambeau Parades. Juan loved following the street sweepers in his Explorer waving to the parade-goers!

Juan accredits his career growth to taking advantage of the city's education classes. "It really helped me grow." Classes such as writing skills and management are readily available for employees desiring developmental growth. Because Juan has a desire to learn, he was selected to attend a special training in Anniston, Alabama for the Center for Domestic Preparedness Homeland Security. He received training on emergency response as an incident commander.

Married with two children and two grandchildren, this grandpa loves his grandbabies, Jordan, 7, and Eddie, 5. It's rare to see Juan without his boys. For the last several years, alongside

Juan, they have picked up trash in the Public Works Zone for Basura Bash and painted over graffiti for Graffiti Wipeout. In addition to spending time with his grandchildren, Juan's other passion is Nascar. In April he took a road trip to the Fort Worth, TX Motor Speedway to watch his favorite driver Dale Earnhart, Jr. #8.

Richard Martinez, Acting Storm Water Manager, "wishes Juanito the best. He is a trusted employee in Public Works and I know he's going to do big and better things in Construction Inspections."



Renzo's Rosemary Shrimp Grill

By Lorenzo Washington

*3 lbs. uncooked tiger shrimp
6 T. virgin olive oil
3 fresh squeezed lemons*

*3 sprigs fresh rosemary
3 cloves garlic, minced
Lemon pepper to taste*

To prepare shrimp, wash thoroughly and butterfly cut down outside end of shrimp; lay flat and sprinkle with lemon pepper. In a cool metal bowl, mix olive oil, lemon juice, garlic and rosemary. Add uncooked shrimp to bowl. Cover and stir every 5 minutes for 20 minutes. Once grill is ready at medium temperature, lay shrimp flat on grill turning over only 3 times. If Barbecue Grill: Skewer about 6 shrimp diagonally and place on grill turning over only 3 times. Shrimp is done when it's all white and shell is nice and pink. Serve well with Renzo's Jambalaya Pasta.

Antonio Escamilla

Roy Arauza

Jose De La Cruz

Lucio Tovar

Working on digging out old drainage pipes.



Antonio Escamilla

Using the Gradall.



Rittiman Rd

After finishing one side of the road.

FEEDBACK

This is YOUR newsletter! What would you like to see? What kind of articles are you interested in? Got an interesting story to tell? Send your articles and pictures today! Send all articles, comments, and suggestions to

**mramos@sanantonio.gov or
by phone at 207-8026.**

Hard at Work

The Bob Ross Center: A Vision Soon to Be a Reality for our Elderly Citizens



The Bob Ross Center before renovations begin.

On June 15, 2006, City Council cleared the way for the \$2.7 million renovation of the **Bob Ross Senior Multi-Service Health and Resource Center**. This facility used to be the Children's Shelter of San Antonio, located in the Medical Center (2219 Babcock Road). The City, among other entities, saw the

potential in buying this property to serve another population of San Antonio: our elderly.

The Bob Ross Center will combine services of the City, Bexar County and several senior local services agencies to provide a true "one-stop" clearinghouse for services and information. This 24,000 square foot facility will host comprehensive services to seniors 60 and older, focusing on case management, health and wellness, triage of other potential needs, education, social and cultural activities and volunteer opportunities. While comprehensive service delivery is a priority, seniors will also enjoy the companionship of their peers, a variety of recreational activities, a nutritious meal, and exercise. Some Center amenities include a therapeutic pool, exercise room, computer lab,

medical screening area, arts and craft room, reading room, dining room and a senior customer service center. The City Architect's Office will be overseeing this adaptive reuse project with Roger T. Carrillo, AIA, serving as the Project Manager for this project. Assistant City Architect Bill Hensley, and Architect Guillermo Moya are assisting Mr. Carrillo on this state-of-the-art facility. This former Children's Center will be transformed into what we believe will be exemplary added services available and opened to all qualified Senior Citizens of the City of San Antonio. For complete information on the **Bob Ross Center** call **207-8182** or visit the web at **www.sanantonio.gov/communit/eds/bobrosscenter.asp**.

CITY HALL ADA SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

By Judy Babbitt, Disability Access Office Manager

To create a more pedestrian friendly San Antonio City Hall for disabled visitors and citizens, sidewalks around City Hall have been undergoing improvements during the last several months. In April of this year, the Public Works Department assembled a team including Engineering, Traffic Safety, City Architects Office, and the Disability Access Office to survey, plan, and construct a safer and more attractive path around and into City Hall. The Asset Management Department provided new new exterior signs and interior improvements to the City Hall basement. This project was completed in late July and cost \$93,000. As a result visitors with disabilities will find it much easier to use the pedestrian mall around City Hall to visit and carry out business within the building. Recognizing that 21% of San Antonio citizens have disabilities, Judy Babbitt, the Disability Access Office manager said, "The number of potential citizens benefiting from this improvement far outweighs the \$93,000 expenditure and any temporary construction inconvenience".

Before

After



Before

After



Before

After



Comal Street Project

By Joseph Marsilio, Special Projects Manager



The Comal Street project has been a vision and a dream for many years to many people. The objective has always been to take the train traffic out of the middle of Comal Street from West Martin Street to the Commerce Street Bridge and beyond. In 2004 many of the stakeholders came together to work and make history by putting the ideals of each group together and seeing how best they could work together. These groups involved the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, the Cattleman's Association, Texas Towing, Union Pacific Railroad, ATT, Time Warner, City Public Service Energy and other local community leaders. The main driver for this project was Councilwoman Patti Radle, whose energy and vision kept the project moving when obstacles got in the way.

Some of the obstacles encountered were the dedication of Morales Street from San Marcos to east of Comal Street to the Union Pacific Railroad to allow them to construct a rail on Brazos and redirect the rail line in front of the Bexar County Detention Facility to the rear, or east of the Detention Center. Along the same thought the Union Pacific Railroad company then dedicated the rail road right of way on Comal from San Marcos to Colima and agreed to remove their railroad ties and rails along this whole route. This would allow Bexar County to repair the road area in the middle of Comal Street where the rails and ties had been removed.

Another obstacle was the relocating of utilities from Brazos Street to get them away from the railroad right of way and negotiations with each utility was held. Each utility has special requirements and each had to be handled in their own special way. The cost of these relocations was several hundred thousand dollars as City Public Service Energy had to relocate a structure that carried a high voltage line and ATT had to relocate some fiber optic cables that were within the Brazos Street right of way which would now house the new Union Pacific Railroad company rail. On July 14, 2006 a press conference

was held to celebrate the completion of the new rail and Councilwoman Radle and County Judge Nelson Wolfe were on hand to talk about the great benefit of this project. Many of the stakeholders were there and they celebrated in the spirit of enjoying the fruits of a lot of hard work by many entities and individuals who through their determination to finish this project in a timely manner were rewarded with a ride on the new tracks in a rail train. This was indeed a joyous occasion for all.



Horseshoes



Left to Right: Guadalupe Cervantes, Jr. and Manual Mandujan



Left to Right: Steve Gonzales and Anita Gomez

MEN'S DIVISION

2ND PLACE

Guadalupe Cervantes, Jr.
Public Works N.W.S.C.
Manual Mandujan
Public Works N.W.S.C.

CO-ED DIVISION

2ND PLACE

Anita Gomez
Public Works - Traffic Ops
Steve Gonzales
Public Works - Traffic Ops

3RD PLACE

Libbia Thurman
Public Works - Storm Water Eng
Gilbert Garcia
Public Works - Storm Water Eng



Left to Right: Gilbert Garcia and Libbia Thurman

Volleyball



Left to Right: Armando Garcia, Veronica Barefield, Lyndon Duano, Preston Trinkle, Monica Dubose, Libbia Thurman, Robert Browning,



Left to Right: Armando Aguilar, Priscilla Rodriguez, Monica Carpenter, Rosie Hernandez

Storm Water Engineering and Storm Water Operations had a great time playing.

Administrative Directive 4.2 (Workplace Attendance)

Have you heard the good news?

The City of San Antonio is committed to enhancing the workplace so that employees have a quality atmosphere that will, in turn, reflect the exemplary services that we strive to provide our citizens.

With input received from the Employee-Management Committee and COSA employees, the revised absence management policy aims for the following qualities:

- **Clarity**
- **Fairness**
- **Flexibility**
- **Dependability**
- **Accountability**

City-wide presentations will be conducted on Administrative Directive 4.2 (Workplace Attendance) in the upcoming weeks. The revised A.D. can be accessed on October 2nd at the following site: <http://cosaweb/hr/ads/>.



Ruben Gomez - During this summer, Ruben was a huge asset to Capital Programs, especially in preparing files for transfer to the Records Facility for permanent storage. In addition, he became a friendly face staffers passed in the hall during his many daily mail deliveries. Ruben's hard work showcased a work ethic to be proud of.



Kinidrea Moore - Kinidrea was a great help in keeping us organized, especially our cluttered supply room. She also worked with Ruben to make sure the file boxes were ready for transfer. Kinidrea's big smile and friendly nature were a definite plus to Capital Programs, especially in the City Architect's Office where she also assisted with the development of meeting minutes on some major projects.

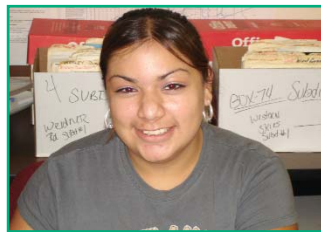


Regis Price - Like Ruben and Kinidrea, Regis aided in the effort to move the Capital Programs files out of the basement to the Records Facility for permanent storage. Regis was known for his quick smile and pleasant personality; he was easy to work with.

Storm Water Engineering



Jessica Garza



Alicia Mendoza

Jessica Garza and Alicia Mendoza
great benefits for Storm Water Engineering

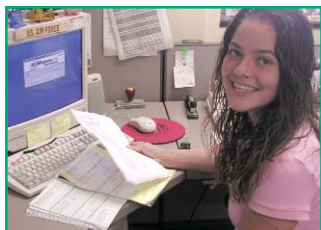
Traffic Operations



Gilbert Salazar, Jr.

Gilbert Salazar, a Senior @ Thomas Jefferson H.S. has been one of our best summer youths to date. He has been here everyday & on time. He has expressed that the employees here made an impression on him with their sense of humor & are cool. We applaud Gilbert for his dedication & hard work.

Storm Water Operations



Priscilla Rodriguez

The Storm Water's administration section recently had been short handed due to some division reorganizations, but when our summer youth program started, it could not have come at a better time. Priscilla Rodriguez offered to extend a helping hand. She answered phones, updated the division's master files and organizational chart. She assisted our fiscal section with processing purchase orders and continuously offered assistance to other sections of the division. Her etiquette and positive attitude was recognized and appreciated. "Thanks, Priscilla" for a job well done & we look forward to having you work with us again next summer.

Storm Water Operations Tunnel Operations, Median Maintenance

Performance Measures

- 6 Summer Youths accomplished:
 - 192 Linear Miles or 1,013,760 Liner feet of medians maintained
 - 300 Acres Maintained
 - 480 Bags of Trash = 9,600 lbs of Waste pick up



Storm Water Operations Surface Maintenance Section, Graffiti Abatement Program



Performance Measures

- 424,725 Sq/Ft of Graffiti Removed
- 1,275 Gallon's of Paint Used
- 174 Location's cleaned



Storm Water Operations Open Waterways

Performance Measures

- Responded and completed a total of 293 customer service requests (311 work orders).
- 2,250 sq. feet of sod = 5 pallets placed along drainage channels and city owned lots. Such as Gateview and Castle Queen.
- 5 Inlet repairs and assisted on setting steel (rebar), for special projects. Meadowlawn pipe culvert crossing.
- 115 cyd. brush trimmed and removed from overhanging limbs, V.O's, and drainage channels.
- 50 cyd. of silt removed from drainage inlets and concrete chutes.
- 40 cyd. of debris removed, such as trash, tires and floatable debris.
- 60 acres of weed eating along creek beds, drainage channels, guard rails, fire hydrants, fence lines, post and cable lines.
- Installed 34, 000 ft. of erosion matting at Dartmoor alley.
- Responded to 225 trees down requests cut and removed from City Row.



Tree Crew Projects: W alters and IH-35 at Bridge, T he removal of two Red Oaks at San Pedro and Mistletoe, T he removal of a China Berry in the back of 9802 Carolwood, T he removal of an old Arizona Ash at 3742 Crossette, T he removal of an Arizona Ash at 9127 Autumn Storm, T he trimming of an Oak Tree at 4110 Briar Crest, T he removal of a dead China Berry tree at 1823 St. Cloud, and T he removal of a large Hackberry Tree limb at 6003 Royal Circle



The Clean Water Act

Lisa McKenzie



Industries and individuals during the 18th and 19th centuries often used rivers and lakes as garbage cans. Industrial effluent, raw sewage and animal carcasses would often be dumped into waterways, without much thought of contamination and downstream neighbors.

The Clean Water Act of 1972 enabled the Federal Government to take charge of regulating the quality of the nation's water supplies.

1. It required the federal government to provide financial assistance for the construction of local sewage treatment plants so that wastewater is treated before it is released into the waterways.

2. It set minimum standards for all industrial and municipal wastewater discharged directly into waterways, and required such discharges to receive a permit through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

San Antonio received its NPDES permit in February of 1996. There are many components that the City must meet, with education being one of those.

Nowadays, people are aware of the importance of clean water to health. However with urbanization comes pollution. The three main entryways of pollutants are:

Atmospheric Pollution

Point Source can be traced to a single discharge and is the easiest to control.

Nonpoint Source (NPS) comes from many different sources. NPS is caused by storm water runoff which picks up pollutants along the way, eventually dumping them into area creeks and rivers. Common NPS includes: fertilizer/pesticide runoff, grass clippings and leaf litter, oil and grease, trash, sediment, household hazardous waste and animal waste.

Care Program by Rebecca Paskos

Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) and VIA offer the Certified Auto Ride in an Emergency (CARE) Program to commuters who ride the bus, carpool, or vanpool at least three times per week. For an annual fee of \$5, the CARE Program provides commuters in an emergency with up to four free cab rides a year within the AACOG region (Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina and Wilson County).

Examples of when you might need to use the CARE Program are:

- You get sick or injured on the job
- Your child or other family member gets sick or injured
- You have a family crisis
- You miss your ride home
- Your job requires you to stay late

How it Works

After registering for the program, four free ride vouchers will be sent to you along with detailed program guidelines. Continue to carpool, vanpool, or ride the bus to work. When an emergency arises and you need to leave work, call the CARE Program

service provider to get a free ride. Waiting time should be less than 20 minutes. Present your driver's license and your voucher to the driver. The driver will keep the voucher as payment. You will only need to pay for the driver's tip.

Rules and Restrictions

CARE taxis are available Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 10 PM. Your free ride voucher can be used for up to 30 miles, one-way within the AACOG region. If the trip exceeds 30 miles, the member must pay the difference directly to the driver.

Abigail Kinnison



Rides are limited to the following:

- From work to member's home
- From work to member's personal vehicle
- Intermediate stops in the event of emergency such as: pick up medicine at the pharmacy; pick up injured or sick child; etc.

Interested? For registration forms or more information, contact **Amber Mayne**, AACOG Outreach Specialist, at amayne@aacog.com or **362-5213** or **Abigail Kinnison**, COSA Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, at **207-3971**

Word Search

Y E C P F I T Y O F T T S N S
T L A U I N A N T C C O O T N
I C N B S I O P E A G I C Y O
L Y U L C B L T R N T E T I I
I C C I A W I T I A J E O R T
B I K C L H N D R O F S D E C
A B P A C O N T R A A R T M E
S E N R C U S P S T J T M C P
I M A T F I L K N D A B Y T S
D R X L N A U K G T X N B P N
F U B I I R I V E R W A L K I
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A P E B I R C K B E Q B Q F K
S G A K A B V M Q E V T M A O

ADMINISTRATION
ARCHITECT
BICYCLE
CONTRACT
DISABILITY
FISCAL
FUNDING

INSPECTIONS
PUBLICART
RIVERWALK
SAFETY
SPECIALPROJECTS
SURVEYING

Kinnison Paving the Way for Cyclists and Pedestrians Scene in SA Monthly



Abigail Kinnison

Bicyclist take heart: Someone in the City's Public Works Department is on your side. Abigail Kinnison is the City's first full-time Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator. Her job entails working with other city departments, developers and concerned parties to make sure the new bike lanes, paths and routes scheduled for San Antonio's city streets in the next few months are implemented correctly. San Antonio has about 40 miles of new bicycle facilities scheduled for construction in the next four or five months, according to Kinnison.

"Part of my job is reviewing all the master development plans filed with the Development Services Department," Kinnison says. "As a developer plans a new subdivision, he has to file it, and it goes through extensive review over everything from the tree ordinance to drainage. With the passage of the Bicycle Master Plan, developers are required - if the development has a new collector or arterial roadway, which are fairly large roadway types - to put a bike facility on that collector roadway. I review those plans to make sure they comply."

Kinnison is also in charge of another major expansion of bike lanes: retrofitting old roads. She helped implement the bike lane on McCullough that runs from Ashby to Hildebrand. McCullough's four-lane road was re-stripped and reduced to three lanes to accommodate a five-foot bike lane in each direction.

Besides overseeing new bike lanes, a big part of Kinnison's job is collaborating with city officials to promote a

more bike-friendly environment. She is part of the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (open to the public), which offers cyclists resources like the "Bike Suitability Map" the group is drafting for the Web site (<http://www.same-ropian.org>) so that cyclists know which streets are the safest to ride on. The map is based on a formula that tabulates things like pavement width and condition, the speed limit, the number of trucks on a given road, and other variables to determine a road's safety. Kinnison is literally paving the way to improve facilities for cyclists who save gas and bolster their health through this practice. She urges motorists to share the road and pick up a bike themselves. "It's literally a two-way street," she says of biker-motorist relations. **SA**